

The Society got my paper for it - disarranged. I have
been making fragments & getting around on it,
until it is finally valued at \$1500 -

Most earnestly do I hope that you will be
enabled to carry out the plans of pecuniary
for help - I trust, which you desired to me -
I most fully ready to help you carry it
out. I do not know how we shall get along
in this State. The total ^{failure} of my usual
contributions to the Anti-Slavery journals of this
State will be severely felt. Nevertheless, I hope
we shall give Bury some fine things
yet.

I have this day sent to the Friend of Mine
a long letter to J. Manning Abbe, in
answer to his which appeared in a recent
number in the Philanthropist. My
letter is sent but not too much so.

I am

Yours truly

Ernestine

Ferris Smith Esq.

Petersburg July 3 1840

Rev. A. A. Phelps

My dear brother,

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I this day receive your letter - &
my very heart-aching because I cannot do
what you wish me to do to help on the good
cause of independent nomination. The truth
is I have felt for the last six months as though
I were approaching bankruptcy. I was rich - but
friends have drawn me in for upwards of
a hundred fifty thousand dollars - a total
irrecoverable loss. I am struggling to keep my
head above water - and amongst my expenditures
are those of borrowing money at 14 to 20%
interest. I have with the closing of the year, to
get through, to have hundreds of thousands left.
But the times render this a very doubtful. At
any rate I cannot give away nothing for a year
to come. I was not able to contribute a dollar
toward helping delegates to the London Convention.
I have not yet paid the whole amount of my subscrip-
tion of \$1000 but give to the Am. Anti-Slavery Society.